

STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

May 9, 2006 – 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

WICK Alumni Center, 1520 R St., Lincoln, NE

MINUTES

Committee Members Present:

Jerome Barry, Ann Ebsen, Tophier Hansen, Linda Krutz, John McVay, Dr. Mercer, Brenda Miner, Jane Morgan, Laura Richards, Kathy Seacrest.

Committee Members Absent:

Dr. Bhatia, Wehnona St. Cyr.

HHS/Behavioral Health Staff Present:

Barbara Thomas, Bob Bussard, Nancy Herdman, Kris Chiles, Betty Alm.

Guests Present:

Christine Salvatore, Leslie Buhl, Christina Peck, Melva Denholm, Melia Cook, Kate Speck.

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairperson, Kathy Seacrest called the meeting to order at 10am. Committee members and guests introduced themselves.

II. ATTENDANCE – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

A quorum was determined with 10 members present.

III. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 7, 2006 MINUTES

Kathy asked for additions or corrections to the February 7, 2006 minutes. Jerome Barry asked that his comments on Page 2 be changed to reflect his concern about allowing grandfathering without verification of the capability of programs. The minutes will be changed to state: *Jerome said there is a concern that a decision was made that applied statewide for Medicaid and Division services to grandfather programs without verification of “dual capable”.*

MOTION Laura Richards
To approve the February 7, 2006 minutes as amended.

SECOND: Jane Morgan

Discussion: None

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously by general consent.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Kathy asked for any additions or corrections to the agenda. None were noted.

MOTION: Jane Morgan
To approve the agenda as stated.

SECOND: Jerome Barry

Discussion: None

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously by general consent.

V. BH DIVISION RESPONSE TO FEBRUARY 7, 2006 SUBSTANCE ABUSE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

(Handout: HHS response dated 4-24-06)

The members discussed the responses.

Recommendation #1 response discussion:

Topher said that LB1083 requires behavioral health be folded into one system (Behavioral Health Division, Medicaid, Protection and Safety, etc.) and he asked where the state was in accomplishing that. He indicated not having them coordinated in one place is a nightmare for providers. Kathy asked what plan was in place to comply with this requirement in LB1083.

Recommendation #2 response discussion:

There was a concern about Medicaid not reporting MRO/SA Waiver expenditures to the Division. Barb reported that monthly expenditure reports the Division monitors give us clear information about how much has been pulled from the Division account to match. But those reports don't give the detail of which provider was paid what amount for what service. There is a federal limit to the amount of federal funds that can be claimed for the SA Waiver. That amount was set by the amount of SA Waiver services claimed for the two years prior to the SA Waiver federal approval date. In addition, the current appropriations funding amounts are only available to match region network providers' 4 MRO and 5 SA services. Any expansion to non-network providers or adding other substance abuse services will require an increase in the state general fund appropriations to Medicaid.

Recommendation #3 response discussion:

John McVay said the Affiliation Agreement between the Division and Medicaid is not signed. Ron Sorensen will be meeting with Mary Steiner on this. John will follow-up on the status of getting the agreement signed.

Recommendation #4 response discussion:

Barb mentioned the Division staff met with LMEP to begin planning for an on-line training for primary physicians on screening and referral for substance abuse. Topher said Region 5 has been doing this type of training with physicians in the Region 5 area and asked the Division to work with the Region 5 group so we don't re-create what has already been implemented.

Recommendation #9 response discussion:

Barb said that the Division was also working with LMEP to develop trainings that help providers implement all the information they have received about dual diagnosis services, e.g. how to develop a treatment plan for dual disorder services. Topher mentioned efforts in Omaha and Lincoln to address how to implement structures to address co-occurring issues despite differences in population. Kathy added that there was a recommendation that the Division be involved in this process.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments.

REPORTS

I. Report from BH Council

LB994 eliminated the BH Council and directed the committees to give advice to the Behavioral Health Division.

II. SA Services in the Justice System

(Handout: Community Corrections Program Initiatives, Office of State Probation Administration)

Probation SA Voucher & SSAS Program – Christine Salvatore, Justice Systems Treatment Specialist

Christine explained that her role is to manage registering providers for the voucher treatment program developed and implemented with new funds. The new funds are targeted for substance abuse treatment services for offenders with felony drug offenses. Probation is very proactive in making sure we are in compliance with the standardized model. The new Office of Community Corrections Programs in the State Probation Administration is implementing three new initiatives:

1. Standardized Model was approved for starting 1-1-06.
2. SSAS Program – 10 Specialized Substance Abuse Supervision Officers throughout the state starting 1-1-06 with three more to be added July 1.
3. Fee for service Voucher Program and the Register Provider List started 2-15-06.

Voucher Program/Registered Provider List

Beginning Feb. 6,000 postcards were mailed to licensed providers notifying them of Feb. 15 registration start date for the Registered Provider List. In less than two months 600 calls were received with 480 calls received in first

seven days. As of March 15, the Justice Probation Committee decided to utilize the list exclusively so State Probation can no longer refer to anyone not on the list for any substance abuse service. As of May 8, 2006, there are 276 registered providers in the list out of 600 applications received. Because some Probation Districts had already had approved provider lists, there was some confusion where providers thought they were already on the list so they didn't need to apply. However, that is not true – everyone need to apply who wants to be on the current list statewide. 20-30 applications are received daily and it takes about 24 hours for approval from the time of receipt of applications. A current Registered Provider list is sent by E-Mail to all judges, probation and parole staff on a weekly basis. The Community Corrections Office has provided 8 trainings on the Standardized Model Overview since January and 7 trainings on the Standardized Model Orientation throughout the state. By summer 2006, it is expected to have the list for Registered Providers on-line and by fall 2006 the application will be on-line.

The Voucher Advisory Committee is responsible for assisting the Community Corrections Program Office with policies and procedures in implementing the Voucher Program and the Registered Provider List. The Fee for Service Voucher Program was set up to facilitate communication between officers and the providers. Feedback heard in the last couple weeks has been very positive from both officers and providers. The paper voucher process is up and running with 32 evaluation vouchers were approved for payment to date. It expected that the vouchers will be on-line by fall 2006.

SSAS (Specialized Substance Abuse Supervision)

The SSAS Program is a joint initiative between State Probation and State Parole using on evidence-based corrections principles. In January and February, 13 new SSAS Probation/Parole Officers were trained who will work with offenders charged with felony drug offense. The core components of SSAS are more direct supervision, Substance Abuse Treatment, Cognitive groups, Day Reporting Center Services and Field Supervision.

Linda Krutz encouraged everyone today to bring any issues to Christine. Any questions, issues or concerns should be directed to Christine Salvatore at:

Phone: 471-3526 (direct #)

Cell: 326-0495 (office cell #)

Main Office: 471-8526 (main office #) – requests for mailing provider packets, application info.

E-Mail: c.salvatore@nsc.state.ne.us

Kathy requested all information about the programs be made available to the regions.

Community Corrections Council - Linda Krutz

Linda reported the Council's Appropriation for FY07 is \$3.375 million. The money is earmarked as follows:

\$2,000,000 for Specialized Courts

\$1,080,000 for SA Treatment

\$1,250,000 for Day and Evening Reporting Centers

\$45,000 for the Recidivism Reduction Treatment Center Study

Linda also mentioned the UNO Methamphetamine Study for the Legislature is complete and available on-line.

Website: <http://www.ncc.state.ne.us/crime-commission/organization-and-functions/comm-corr-council/supplemental-materials.htm>

Justice Substance Abuse Team (JSAT) – Jerome Barry

JSAT was formerly the Governor's Task Force and is now a subcommittee of the Community Corrections Council.

There is a current proposal to change the name of the team to the Justice Behavioral Health Team to include both mental health and substance abuse. Jerome announced he will be co-chair with Steve Rowoldt. At the last meeting in April 20, JSAT members approved the name change; they also discussed a focus on curriculum and CEU criteria for criminal justice courses that count toward meeting the Standardized Model. The JSAT will sponsor meetings across the state to gather input for these criteria. Jerome asked everyone to be aware of public meetings with John Dacey and Jon Atherton to be held across the state for substance abuse providers.

III. HHS/R&L Alcohol Drug Counselor Licensing Program

Kris Chiles; Nancy Herdman

(Handouts: Disciplinary Actions Taken by the Department (1-1-2005 to 1-1-2006); Licensed Professionals; Highlights of Proposed Changes to the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Licensure Regulations – Draft Title 172 Chapter 15)

Nancy Herdman reported she attended the ICRC meeting in April where a proposal regarding a merger with NAADAC was discussed. The discussion focused on the key differences of each organization. The NAACAC focus is very different from ICRC: the ICRC focus is public safety and counselor competency where the NAADAC focus is counselor advocacy; these are two very different missions. Both organizations are interested in going forward with negotiations for a merger. Jerome added that NAADAC's focus is on getting counselors into the field quickly and advocating for counselors whereas the ICRC mission is on competency and safety for consumers.

Kris provided data about the licensing of Alcohol Drug Counselors (attached to Minutes). Information for all professionals is on the Website: hhs.state.ne.us/crl/crlindex.htm. Jerome added the pass rate for the written exam is so much higher than the national average. Credit goes to Leslie and Christina at LMEP for the TAP continuing education courses and the trainers providing that training. Nebraska must be doing something right.

Kris and Nancy reviewed the highlights of proposed changes to the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Licensure Regulations (Title 172 Draft 5-1-06). Jerome encouraged distribution of copies of the overview to be provided to the regions prior to public hearings so they have time to review and see what they support and what they would like to get changed. Jerome mentioned that when the LADC Board met with the psychologists and they started talking about the 12 Core Functions, global criteria, content, value of paid work experience and the practical experience of persons preparing to get their LADC, it didn't take them long to figure out if they don't have knowledge of any of these items, they shouldn't provide supervision. He also stated that this requirement really protects that applicant so an applicant can be alerted if the supervisor they've chosen is an approved supervisor or not before they start their three years of practice.

Kris explained the process to revise the LADC regulations:

1. Public Hearing (dates have to be published 30 days in advance)
2. Board of Health review the third Monday in July
3. Attorney General timeline has been about 30 days)
4. Governor's office
5. October is the tentative date for the new regulations

Contact Kris Chiles at 471-2117 with any questions.

Kathy suggested amending the agenda since it is lunch time:

MOTION: Ann Ebsen

Since it is lunch time, move to go forward with the NE Recovery Network lunch presentation and continue the agenda after lunch beginning with the LMEP Alcohol Drug Counselor Training Report.

SECOND: Jerome Barry

Discussion: None

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

IV. Nebraska Recovery Network (LUNCH PRESENTATION) – Jack Buehler

(Handout: NE Recovery Network Newsletter - Recovery Road; 2nd NE Recovery Network Production Recovery Rendezvous-May 13, 2006)

Jack introduced himself as the part-time Director of the NE Recovery Network, a state organization to advocate for SA consumers. The NE Recovery Network is a member of the National Faces and Voices of Recovery with a goal to help the public regarding recovery. There are thousands of people in Nebraska are in recovery. The goal is in conflicts with SA self-help groups. The differences have become a national legal issue. But the key is that it is okay to talk about recovery.

Jack discussed the handouts. He has shared his message to students in high schools and middle schools in Nebraska. The Division funds the Recovery Network at this time including the newsletter, Recovery Road. SAMHSA is working towards consumer driven services system and with ICRC regarding national certification of counselors. SAMHSA is focusing on the involvement of consumers. There is also a movement away from counselor driven treatment plans to client driven recovery plans. NE Recovery Network wants all Nebraskans to know there are thousands of people in recovery in Nebraska. National studies show what keeps people from getting help: 1) denial and stigma; and 2) recovery is real.

Contact the NE Recovery Network at 402-477-2377 with questions. The e-mail address is: NERecovery@prodigy.net

V. LMEP/Alcohol Drug Counselor Training Report – Leslie Buhl
(Handout: LMEP Training for Addiction Professionals (TAP))

Criminal Justice CEUs

The training schedule since January 2006 is listed in the handout. Leslie mentioned that LMEP is partnering with Prairielands ATTC and the Dept. of Corrections for Dr. Mee-Lee’s ASAM training in April for 12 hours criminal justice CEUs. Rand Kannenberg from Colorado will do a two-day training in mid-May and three more days of training in June. The training dates are June 28, 29, 30.

ASI/CASI Trainings

There are fewer participants in CASI training. Leslie reported they get many phone calls but no follow-up. The ASI will be rescheduled to May 26 and will be re-advertised. People will be able to register on-line in the next few months.

V. Tribal Report – Kathy Samuelson

(Handout: MH & SA Funding by Tribe for FY2006; North East Panhandle Substance Abuse Center, Gordon, NE brochure)

Kathy Samuelson reviewed the funding information for the Tribes for FY06 explaining these are all direct contracts with the Tribes. They will receive a 3.25% increase for FY07. We also contract with North East Panhandle Substance Abuse Center (NEPSAC) to provide substance abuse residential treatment services to Native Americans.

VI. Prairielands Addiction Transfer Technology Center – Kate Speck

(Handout: PATTC 2006 Activities Roster)

Kate reported that several trainings were sponsored by PATTC in the last quarter. Training on trauma issues held in April at Uta Halee Cooper Village had an attendance of 370. PATTC will be providing training for criminal justice and substance abuse providers on criminogenic issues. A list of scheduled training activities was included in the handout. Recovery Month is September 2006 and PATTC will focus on adolescent issues for the month. PATTC has been working with Juanita Rodriguez to teach courses on families and nutrition issues. Kate is working on getting CEUs for gambling, trauma and clinical supervision.

VIII. Office of Consumer Affairs Report – Joel McCleary

(Handout: National Consensus Statement on Mental Health Recovery)

Joel said he has been the Administrator for Consumer Affairs for the last fifteen weeks and has spent most of that time listening. He emphasized that consumers are in charge of their treatment. Joel said he works with Dan Powers and Phyllis McCaul, both also consumers on the Division staff and with Sandy O’Meara, a consumer at the Lincoln Regional Center. Joel encouraged everyone to send any needs/thoughts regarding consumer needs to he or Ron Sorensen. Committee members asked about the handout and its focus on Mental Health. They urged Joel to be sensitive to that when speaking with SA groups. Written information should say Substance Abuse. Joel was very appreciative of the advice. Joel briefly introduced the new initiative to fund a Consumer System Coordinator in each Region Office.

Contact Joel McCleary at 479-5246 with any questions.

IX. State Strategic Planning Initiative

Committee members were provided copies of the Division’s BH Strategic Planning Process Design. After the passage of LB1083, the Division was to develop a statewide plan. A report is due in August regarding what the statewide report should look like. Planning process for the report will take place September 2006 – June 2007. Planning group will consist of twelve consumers and six stakeholders.

X. Prevention

Substance Abuse Committee members were provided copies of the Behavioral Health Prevention Update May 2006 compiled by Laurie Sutter.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

I. SA Waiver Services State Match Funds Expended – Barb Thomas

Barb reported that the Division can access reports from the State Accounting System to know the amount of Division state funds that Medicaid has expended to date. The amount of Division funds allocated to the regions for Medicaid eligible persons served in SA Waiver services is set at the beginning of the fiscal year based on the Region budget plans with their network providers. Any of those funds remaining unexpended at the end of the fiscal year will go back into the Division’s budget for reallocation in the next fiscal year. Topher suggested bringing the Medicaid expenditures information to the Oversight Commission meeting on Friday.

II. History of Division Substance Abuse Funding – Barb Thomas

(Handout: History of State Funding For Public Substance Abuse Services as of 3-3-06)

The chart shows that the funding of substance abuse services through the Division has been steadily increasing over the past ten years. Kathy said there are now many more opportunities for expanded substance abuse services with new funding in other agencies such as State Probation and Community Corrections Council. Barb reported that the federal SA Block Grant funds were decreased for the second year and early reports indicate another reduction in FY07. This won’t be known until the new federal appropriations bill is passed next fall.

NEW BUSINESS

I. Election of Officers – Jerome Barry

Jerome Barry and Dr. Bhatia were on the Nominating Committee. Jerome reported that the following persons have agreed to run for office:

- Ann Ebsen - Chairperson
- Dr. Mercer - Vice-Chairperson
- Brenda Miner - Secretary

MOTION: Topher Hansen

To approve these nominations as proposed: Ann Ebsen, Chairperson, Dr. Mercer, Vice Chairperson and Brenda Miner, Secretary.

SECOND: Laura Richards

Discussion: None

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously by general consent.

Ann Ebsen, newly elected Substance Abuse Committee Chairperson continued with the meeting.

II. By-Laws Revision

Jerome made the suggestion for a smoother transition in regard to SAAC officers that each serve a one-year term in one office and that there be a procedure where each person moves into the next highest office the following year. Topher said there could be a problem if people change jobs and are no longer on the committee or can no longer serve as an officer. If that happens, there can always be a special election to fill a vacancy. It was recommended that the By-Laws be put on the agenda for the next meeting since there are probably several other areas that need review and revision. Another suggestion was to add consumer definition to membership section of the By-Laws. The definition states: “*An individual or family member who has utilized substance abuse, mental health, gambling, or other addiction services from licensed professionals and who has an interest in enhancing the accessibility and quality of care of services in Nebraska is eligible for appointment to a state advisory committee in their area of treatment.*” The Committee will review the By-Laws at the next meeting.

III. Membership Appointments and Reappointments

After brief discussion, the Committee recommended that the members whose terms expire July 2006 be reappointed: Ann Ebsen, Brenda Miner, Linda Krutz, and Jane Morgan. The Division will also submit names to the Governor of anyone who has applied for membership on the Substance Abuse Committee.

IV. 2006 Meeting Schedule/Time

The Substance Abuse Committee meetings scheduled for rest of 2006 are: August 8, 2006 and November 7, 2006. The Committee was told that Ron Sorensen would like all three committee meetings to be held on the same day. A comment was made that we should stay with the dates already scheduled since they are already on members’ calendars.

MOTION: Brenda Miner

To keep the meeting dates: August 8, 2006 and November 7, 2006 for the remainder of the year and set a 2007 meeting schedule for the SA Committee at the November meeting.

SECOND: Tophen Hansen
Discussion: None
VOTE: Motion passed unanimously by general consent.

Jerome mentioned the importance of involving consumers in these meetings. We do not have consumers here at the Substance Abuse Committee meetings to provide public comment.

V. SA Committee Recommendations for Behavioral Health Division

Ann and Kathy reviewed the list of suggested recommendations from today's meeting to be sent to the Division. The list included the following. Ann will develop the memo to Ron Sorensen and send the recommendations to the Division.

1. BH Division and Medicaid funding agreement
2. Integrated Behavioral Health within HHSS as required by LB1083
3. Continued support for training for physicians on SA screening and referral
4. Reappointment of current SA Committee members whose terms expire July 2006

Substance Abuse Committee members approved these recommendations.

NOTE: Copies of the NHHS Behavioral Health Services and Medicaid Service Definitions were distributed to Committee members. They are located on the web at: www.hhs.state.ne.us/beh/Svc_Def_04_06.pdf

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

By-Laws Revision

ADJOURN

Ann Ebsen adjourned the meeting at 2:10 pm.

Minutes Prepared by:

Betty Alm
Staff Assistant II
Division of Behavioral Health Services
May 9, 2006 and June 6-8, 2006

Approved by: _____

Barbara W. Thomas
Assistant Director/AOD
Division of Behavioral Health Services

Date _____